Applicant: Davis et al. Serial No.: 10/767,683

REMARKS

Specification

Paragraph [0018] has been amended to categorize both the accelerator and brake pedals generically as a "control pedal". Those skilled in the art realize that accelerator and brake pedals are, in essence, control pedals. Therefore, no new matter is being added as a result of this amendment.

Claims

After entry of the subject Amendment, claims 1-22 are pending in the subject application, with claims 1, 7, and 9 being in independent form. Claims 1-3, 5, 7, 9, and 13-18 have been amended as described below. Claims 4, 6, 8, 10-12 and 19-22 remain unchanged. No new matter has been added to the application as a result of these amendments.

Claims 1, 2, and 14-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Burr et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,731,020). Claims 3-13 and 19-22 are allowed if rewritten in independent form including the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the allowance of various dependent claims. In accordance with this allowance, claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of allowed claims 3 and 5. Allowed claims 7 and 9 have each been amended to include the limitations of the original independent claim 1.

To consolidate claims 3 and 5 into amended claim 1, Applicant has introduced the term "control pedal" to more generically reflect either the "accelerator pedal" of claim 3 or the "brake pedal" of claim 5. Accordingly, both claims 3 and 5 have been amended to reflect the changes to claim 1, which they are dependent on. Thus, it respectfully submitted that claim 1 is now in condition for allowance. Furthermore, claims 3-6, are dependent on claim 1, either directly or indirectly, such that they are also in condition for allowance.

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As stated above, allowed claim 7 has been amended to include the limitations of the original independent claim 1. Claims 2 and 13-18 have been amended to be dependent on claim 7. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that claim 7 is now in condition for allowance. Furthermore, claims 2, 8, and 13-22, are dependent on claim 7, either directly or indirectly, such that they are also in condition for allowance.

As also stated above, allowed claim 9 has been amended to include the limitations of the original independent claim 1, such that claim 9 is now in condition for allowance. Claims 10-12 are dependent on claim 9, either directly or indirectly, such that they are also in condition for allowance.

In summary, is respectfully submitted that the application, as amended, is now presented in condition for allowance. Applicant believes that no fees are due; however, if any become required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account 08-2789 for this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

HOWARD & HOWARD ATTORNEYS, P.C.

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Date

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